THE LEVITE

VI. No 4

THE
MAGAZINE
OF THE
JOHN
WATSON
CLUB

SPRING NUMBER 1943

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The Levite

SPRING NUMBER 1943 VOL. VI. No. 9

SUPPLEMENT TO LEVITES SERVICE LIST, 1942.

Addison, Miss D.—W.R.N.S.
Brymer, Miss M.—A.T.S
Chrystal, Miss J.—W.A.A.F.
McLeod, Miss S.—A.T.S.
McLeod, Miss T.—A.T.S.
Maclachlan, Miss A.—W.R.N.S.
Orr, Miss M.—W.R.N.S.
Clark, G. D. (1923)—R.A.F.
Kinghorn, A. M. (1925)—R.A.F.
Inglis, R. A. (1933)—Transferred A. & S.H. to R.A.F.
Binnie, A. (1934)—Duke of Wellington Regt.
Rintoul, M. (1935)—R.A.F.
Lawrence, J. (1936)—R.N.V.R.
Addison, D. (1937)—Merchant Navy.
O'Donnell, R. (1937)—R.A.F. (Air Sea Rescue).
Ewbank, N. (1939)—Royal Navy.
Dennison, J. R. (1939)—R.N.V.R.
Moodie, A. (1939)—Royal Navy.

PRISONER OF WAR.

Aitken, J. (1933)—at Singapore on December, 1941.

DEATH ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Sgt. W. K. F. Marshall (1921), R.A.F. Aged 27 years.

THE OLDEST LEVITE

By the death of Mr Hector Chalmers on the 30th March, 1943, the oldest Levite has passed from our midst at the age of 95.

Hector Chalmers, the son of a Writer, came to John Watson's in the distant days when the School stood practically alone in the Belford district. When Mr George Rowe, who in the passing of the years was to prove one of the School's most illustrious head-masters, came to John Watson's, one of his first pupils was Hector Chalmers, then ten years old. The latter left John Watson's in 1863 and taking up art as a career quickly made his mark. One of his tutors was McTaggart, the celebrated Scottish artist.

He was known to successive generations of Scottish painters, and through his long life-time he never lost his zest for natural beauty. He painted a long succession of pictures, both in water-colour and in oils, and was represented regularly in the Scottish exhibitions. As a rule he worked on a small scale, but he turned out a large number of

bright and interesting sketches, and well on in his eighties he held exhibitions of his own works.

His pictures were pleasant transcripts from Nature marked by agreeable colour and a competent faculty for composition and arrangement. He had also a keen eye for domestic character and scenes in ordinary Scottish daily life. One of his largest pictures shown in Edinburgh was a village scene introducing a man with a "hurdy-gurdy" with a monkey on the top of it. Hector Chalmers was the oldest member of the Scottish Arts Club, where over a long succession of years he was a familiar figure. He had a good tenor voice, and at social gatherings of the club he was frequently called upon to sing some of the older Scottish songs, which he interpreted with notable sympathy and feeling.

The freshness of his art was only the reflection of his personality as the following tribute from a fellow artist shows :—

"The long day closes, but there was a fine, luminous twilight before the night came. He never seemed to grow old ; age did not wither him ; time only looked on—and smiled. He was Peter Pan and the Pied Piper combined. Many a social evening has he brightened by his silvery tenor voice and whistle, heard even up to midnight and then a walk of two miles home. And this when he was 90 years old. His sunny disposition seemed infectious and radiated good-will to all around. There will be a blank in artistic circles through the passing of Hector Chalmers."

TWO LEVITES OF THE '80's.

In the First Number of *The Levite*, in 1903, there appeared as Club members among the outstanding band of Levites of the 1880's the names of James Muirhead (1882) and of Gerald W. Crawford (1883). We regret to report the deaths of the former Levite on 30th December, 1942, and of the latter on 9th November, 1942.

The name of Muirhead always stood for loyalty to the Club. The younger brother, William, practising as a S.S.C. in Edinburgh and Dalkeith, was, before his death, well known as a member of the Club Council and as President. The older brother soon after he entered the service of the Commercial Bank of Scotland was transferred to London. It was not until eighteen years later that he came north again, and he was Agent of the Bank at Paisley when he retired ten years ago. There he became a J.P. and a leading member of the Kirk Session of Paisley Abbey. On taking up residence in Edinburgh, he naturally took an interest in Club affairs and he served as senior vice-president for three years. He was always present at social and business meetings of the Club, and we shall miss his kindly interest and advice. To his widow and family we offer our sincere sympathy.

After the death of Gerald Crawford a warm tribute was paid, by Lord Provost Darling of Edinburgh, to the outstanding qualities of

this Levite who had a longer service than most on the Town Council. He said it was difficult to define what Gerald Crawford was—he made much of many things—he made of life, more than most, an art. This quality had been defined in a word created for such as he was—the quality was simply "Geraldry." In his boyhood at John Watson's he was different from others. He was the only Liberal amongst many Tories at school. Tales are told of the torpedo which he invented. Although he had such qualifications as "A.M.I.Mech.E.," his occupation as a civil engineer was rather a surprise to many who thought of him only as a musician. As a Town Councillor he was asked to speak on the public platform in support of Lord Kitchener's appeal for men in the Great War ; he quietly enlisted instead although he was nearly 50 years of age. A typical example of "Geraldry." He was severely wounded while on active service. But the crowning interest of his life was music. He was a composer of some distinction and conducted more than once his own symphonies in the Usher Hall. In order to provide work for unemployed musicians he organised and conducted the Edinburgh Professional Orchestra. In a word, he did not live his life in vain.

D. M. Thomson.

SGT. W. K. F. MARSHALL.

Three years of war has made the B.B.C. News a more intimate part of our national life. How often when we hear "The R.A.F. were again over Germany last night" do we think of friends who might have taken part.

In this issue we remember Keay Marshall who was lost in such a raid over Trondheim on 27th April, 1942.

Born on 5th September, 1915, in Kinross, Keay was the younger son of the late John Albert Marshall, Solicitor, of Kinross, and Mrs Marshall of Edinburgh. He entered John Watson's in 1924 and there quickly showed himself to be a good all round sportsman. In 1929 he left to continue his scholastic career at George Watson's College. His record in the field of sport at John Watson's was but a forerunner of an excellent career in this wider sphere. A good rugger player, it was, however, at cricket that he excelled. He played for the 1st XI., his bowling being the admiration of all spectators.

His interest in sport did in no way obscure his interest in John Watson's. He followed closely the life of the School, and the activities of the Club, serving for a period on the Council of the latter. It was not unnatural that he was a keen supporter of the Badminton Club, and few were the Tuesday or Friday evenings which passed without his being found on the court in the School Gym.

In 1932 he joined the Royal Bank, Kinross, being transferred, in 1936, to the London Branch at Bishopsgate.

It is perhaps not surprising, when it came to active service and choosing in which way he should serve, that the youngest arm of the

Services should appeal to the spirit of the sportsman within him. In 1940 he joined the R.A.F. and trained as a wireless operator and later became one of the crew of a Lancaster bomber.

In the raid in which he was lost a fellow airman said he saw a Lancaster hit and on fire. This he thought was the one Keay's crew manned. He saw three of the crew "bale out" and thought that the pilot would be able to bring the plane down safely. This airman,

however, must have been mistaken since nothing has been heard of any of the crew.

Keay's going will be felt by all of us who shared his companionship at school and to the wider circle who came in touch with him in later years. We shall remember him on the Cricket Pitch, the Rugger Field and on the Badminton Court, but most of all we shall remember him as that happy, care-free and likeable spirit always ready to help, to give-and-take. The spirit that made him the true sportsman.

To his mother and family we offer our sincere sympathies.

F. R. DILLY.

MISS CHRISSIE PATON.

Since receiving the last issue of *The Levite* we have lost one of the most loyal and helpful members of our Club. I refer to Miss Chrissie Paton whose sudden and untimely death grieved all her old friends exceedingly. She was a most devoted member in so many ways.

Along with her sister, Mrs Morgan, she gave much assistance whether as secretaries in Club affairs, or with preparations for our Christmas gatherings. She was also a great supporter of the Badminton Club, as was to be expected in view of her great love of sport. She was for many years a member of the Council of the John Watson Club, and was, in short, one of a set of very loyal Former Pupils to whose loyalty, on both sides, the School owes so much.

She found time for war work too, being a part-time member of the W.A.P.C., and her colleagues shewed their appreciation by their presence in numbers at her funeral.

Perhaps Chrissie Paton thought rather diffidently of herself and her own doings, but that she was appreciated by all who had contact with her, one can safely say, and her old friends will personally miss her charm.

Our sympathies are with her mother and sisters in their very unlooked-for loss.

W. L. GELLATLY.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The war continues to limit Club activities severely, but the Club affairs have survived in a remarkable way. This welcome news was very evident at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, which was held at 111A George Street, Edinburgh, on the evening of Tuesday, 19th January by the kindness of Miss Jean D. Bruce.

It is not very often that in a war time a Treasurer is in the happy position of being able to present a very sound report on the Club's finances, but such was the lot of our Treasurer, and it behoves us to help him to maintain this condition during the coming year.

The Council's 41st Annual Report also presented a satisfactory state of affairs, and it was of special interest to note the appreciation with which the efforts of the Club through the School Tradition Fund had been met.

The report further paid tribute to the late Miss C. Paton, one of the younger members of the Council—and recorded great appreciation of her years of services.

The following members were elected as office-bearers for the ensuing year :

President—D. M. Thomson.

Vice-Presidents—
Miss Jean Bruce, M.B.E., and G. D. S. Forsyth, M.A.

Secretary—A. D. Murray, P.A.S.I.

Deputy Secretary—Miss J. Rhind, M.A.

Treasurer—W. R. Menzies.

Editor of The Levite—A. D. Murray, P.A.S.I.

Members of Council—Professor W. B. Stevenson, Professor O. S. Rankin, D. L. G. Hunter, Miss W. L. Gellatly, Miss D. Drysdale, Mrs Foote, Miss P. Winter.

The presentation of medals to the School on Vacation Day, 1943, was agreed to and it was also decided to continue the awards of the Miss Murray and War Memorial Bursaries to the worthy applicants.

Such then was the business conducted at the Annual Meeting and it is our hope that the Club will be in as sound a position next year.

THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The Council has pleasure in presenting its 41st Annual Report to the members. In this fourth year of the War it is naturally difficult to keep up the organisation of the Club, but the Council is happy to say that its office-bearers are doing all they can to keep in touch with the members, especially with those serving with the Forces. Taking everything into account the Club finances continue to be in a healthy condition. The Council would however emphasise that it is greatly due to the payment of the annual subscription by as many members as can be reached that the Club can carry on, and it is hoped that there will not be any lessening in the flow of subscriptions in the coming year.

It is very gratifying to report that one of the cherished traditions of the School, which was in danger of being lost three years ago, has been saved, it is hoped for all time. Much of the credit goes to the subscribing Former Pupils to the School Tradition Fund, who in spite of war conditions continued for three years to meet all their commitments and they now earn the following warm acknowledgment by the Governors at their annual meeting in October, 1942 ;—

> "The Deputy Keeper of the Signet pointed out that the improved financial statement disclosed by the Treasurer's Accounts for the past year, had been very materially assisted by the donations of £200 contributed yearly to Revenue for three years by the John Watson Club, and stated that these donations had made it possible to continue the provision of clothing for the children. The meeting expressed its high appreciation of such liberality and instructed the Treasurer to communicate their thanks to the Club."

In this connection the important part played by the Former Pupils Development Fund is not to be forgotten. For three years its average contribution to the School Funds was £68. It has been decided that donations made by the Former Pupils in October and for the next three years should be retained in the Tradition Fund in order that the latter may be built up to such a degree as will enable it to play a worthy part in any emergency which may arise.

The membership of the Club stands at 323, made up of 195 old boys and 128 old girls. Of these, 72 are serving with H.M. Forces. The Council much regrets to say that the Club has this year suffered one casualty by the death in action of Sgt. W. K. F. Marshall, R.A.F.

The Council has also suffered a great loss in the death of one of its younger members, Miss C. Paton. Miss Paton was one of the Club's most enthusiastic supporters and the Council desires to record its great appreciation of her years of willing service.

The Council in addition regrets to record the death of Mr Jas. Muirhead, a former Senior Vice-President of the Club, and Miss J. A. Jackson.

The Levite continues to serve the Club well and its Spring, 1942, Number met with a hearty welcome.

The Council has pleasure in reporting that the Club War Memorial Bursary was awarded to David H. Marshall (1942) and the Miss Murray Memorial Bursary to Christina Moore.

The Council presented the following medals and prizes on the Vacation Day in July last :—

School Dux Medal	John Shannon.
Dux Girl Medal	Georgina Baillie.
Rowe Memorial Medal for Religious Knowledge	Ian Winter.
Langhorne Memorial Medal for Latin .	John Shannon.
Ronaldson Prize for Writing . . .	Janet Carson.

By order of the Council,

A. DOUGLAS MURRAY, *Secretary.*

THE CLUB CASH STATEMENTS (Abbreviated)

for Year Ending 30th November, 1942.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

Investments (including Dr Crawford Watson's Bequest £150)	£424 9 1	Present Value	£442 10 0

CURRENT ACCOUNT.

Balance at 1st November, 1941	£31 9 2	*The Levite*	£15 10 6
Subscriptions	24 15 0	Bursaries, Medals, etc.	10 8 0
Donations, etc.	12 7 8	Stationery, etc.	11 17 7
		Balance	30 15 9
	£68 11 10		£68 11 10

F.P. DEVELOPMENT FUND.

Balance at 30th November, 1941	£426 14 5	Grant to Tradition Fund ...	£76 3 0
Interest	13 3 2	Balance	363 14 7
	£439 17 7		£439 17 7

F.P. TRADITION FUND.

Balance at 30th November, 1941	£86 7 0	John Watson's School	£200 0 0
Donations—Tax Recovery ...	97 15 0	Expenses	2 0 0
Development Fund	76 3 0	Balance	58 5 0
	£260 5 0		£260 5 0

F.P. CENTENARY RECREATION FUND.

Investments	£728 0 0	Present Value	£800 13 3

CURRENT ACCOUNT.

Balance	£37 4 7	Athletic Outfits	£24 7 6
Dividends, etc	27 17 6	Balance	40 14 7
	£65 2 1		£65 2 1

F.P. FOUNDATIONERS' FUND.

Investments, less Re-allocation of Expenses (including £2 12s. due to Treasurer) of £19 4s. £657 12 11

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Deposit	£77 3 8	Administrative Expenses ...		£2 13 0
Dividends and Tax Recovery ...	53 15 10	On Deposit ...	£147 11 6	
Re-allocation of Expenses ...	16 12 0	Due School Treasurer	2 13 0	
				144 18 6
	£147 11 6			£147 11 6

These Accounts were Audited by J. D. W. Spence, Esq., C A.

Club Talk

Two Levites serving with the Forces in Malta found themselves in the same Battery, later went to the same O.C.T.U. and have both now been commissioned.

John Gunn (1939) is a second year student at Edinburgh University, taking his B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree. Sheila Maclachlan is also studying at the same University.

Oliver Cran (1940) and Graham Brodie (1941) are regular members of the Stewarts College and Hillhead High School Rugby XV. respectively. The latter played in the Schools Inter-City match —Edinburgh *v.* Glasgow, at Goldenacre.

Levites will be sorry to hear that "Jock" Aitken (1931) was taken prisoner after the fall of Singapore. His younger brother, Martin, is also a prisoner of war in Germany. Our hopes for their early return go to them both.

Mary Nisbet is now an assistant housekeeper in a girls' school at Wells, Somerset. She also assists on the teaching side.

The Miss Murray Memorial Bursary for 1942 was awarded to Christina Moore and the War Memorial Bursary for 1942 was awarded to David Marshall (1942).

Darby Addison, who joined the Merchant Service shortly after leaving school in 1937, is now "on shore" studying for his 2nd mate's ticket.

7 Girls and 9 Boys, all Levites of 1942, have joined the Club.

Congratulations to Gilbert Clark (1923), Bob Scott (1929) and Paddy Wylie (Mrs Phillips) all recently married. Congratulations also to Jack Spence (1923), Bill Halliburton (1932), Gavin Millar (1930) and Dorothea Ogilvie (Mrs Foote) who have all of recent months had additions to their family circles.

War causes many changes, but those which cause the Secretary most trouble in the course of his duties are the many changes of addresses. Many communications to Levites are returned marked "GONE AWAY," and it would be of great assistance to the Secretary (and in the Levite's own interests) if all such changes were promptly communicated to him.

VISIT TO THE "SOUK" OR ARAB MARKET.

When we arrived here we started to settle down and I was elected to the P.S.I. Committee which is responsible for the buying of the stocks for our R.A.F. canteen and also for the food for extra messing. Every third day I had to go to the Souk—generally to buy eggs, fruit and vegetables.

The market simply consists of small wooden stalls down both sides of a narrow street, indescribably dirty, upon which are piled the vendor's wares. The street is usually thronged with people pressing round the stalls, pinching and feeling the goods and bargaining in shrill voices. Down the middle of the street ragged youths push barrows from place to place, and boys, aged about eight to ten years old stagger along with huge baskets held on their backs by straps round their foreheads. To add to the apparent confusion, sheep, goats and donkeys are being led along by their masters, and many a fracas has been started by a goat or sheep stealing vegetables off a stall and being caught in the act by the irate stall owner. However, if the animal does not "get it over" in record time the stall keeper is on it like a flash to salvage the remains, which will, doubtless, be sold as vegetables—2nd class!

When buying goods in the market it is not as easy as shopping (pre war) at home where everything has its price ticket, and it must be realised that here a thing is worth just as much as the seller can get for it. And so this has given rise to the inevitable bargaining of the East and the seller does in no way consider it dishonest to exact 200% profit from anyone who is foolish enough to pay the price.

And so let us approach a stall with the purpose of buying a rotle of tomatoes and be greeted with an ingratiating smile, a rubbing of palms and a look which plainly forecasts some easy money.

On reaching the stall you have a look at potatoes, onions, melons, apples, etc., asking a price here and there until finally you nonchalantly pick up a tomato and ask the price per rotle. He suggests a ridiculous figure and you reply with a price, about one third of his, which gives you some margin to bargain in. Your reply visibly "upsets" him, and, with flashing eyes and gesticulating hands, he launches into a harangue which is directed at all and sundry within a radius of ten yards, not one word of which you can understand. When at last he stops for lack of breath you slightly increase your price and he reduces his original one. When he appears inflexible you walk away to another stall and he calls you back with a further decrease in price, and this goes on until a fair enough price is reached. It does not do, however, to congratulate yourself too soon on a favourable bargain, because, if you do not watch the stall keeper carefully, he will include in your purchase a good percentage of bad tomatoes.

Most of those who throng the market place are Arab and are dressed in an amazing variety of garments—anything from a voluminous white night-gown and red Fez to a patchwork assortment of rags

and sacking. Sometimes you will see a Bedouin, striding down with erect figure, wearing his distinctive head-dress or kefiyah, and often carrying his horse's trappings, richly sewn and brightly coloured.

With the sun blazing down and each puff of wind raising a dust, the all-pervading variety of aromas which are an essential feature of such a market are ever present and cling to the nostrils even after leaving.

And so, with many a "Sayeeda" we make for our "gharry." Another day's shopping is over.

A.C.O. (1925).

OLIM MAGISTER.

Early in January of this year, we received a brief note from Mr Johnson to the effect that he was in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, suffering from acute pneumonia and pleurisy. Down at the School we kept in touch with him, having encouraging reports and then suddenly we heard that he had passed away quietly in sleep on the evening of 6th February.

Partly prepared as we were, this news was still a great shock and a cause of much sadness to us, as it will be to his old pupils and colleagues, now scattered all over the globe, for the name "Mr Johnson" was one to recall with happiness and gratitude.

In November, 1930, he arrived fresh from his studies at Aberdeen University to start his career as Mathematics and Science Master at John Watson's. The beginner's enthusiasm which he put into his work right away never failed throughout his ten years of service. He taught his pupils well, thoroughly and sympathetically, and was also ready to help and advise those who came to consult him after school-days were over.

Mr Johnson also devoted much time and energy to the other activities of the School. I can well remember the drawerful of broken toys and watches awaiting his skilful touch; the noise of laughter as he fitted yet another child into his car; his radiogram and set of excellent records; and his ingenuity in the stage-management and lighting for the annual Shakespeare play.

When to our regret he left to go to Laurencekirk, he found life in a day school very different from that at John Watson's, but during the brief two years there, he so endeared himself to his pupils that they gave up part of their "sweet" ration to send to him while he was ill.

To his parents, his sister and his brother, therefore, we of John Watson's, past and present, should like to extend our most sincere sympathy in their very great sorrow.

G.M.A.

School Notes

BOYS' PAGE.

In the three busy terms now under review, the boys have lost a very good friend by the untimely death of Dr Hyslop, for it is not every inspector whose visits were as popular as his. They have said good-bye to several other good friends too, notably to Mrs Scriver and Miss Young, who as Matron and Boy's Nurse had long and faithfully served the School. In wishing these two all that is good for the future, we bid their successors welcome.

The summer term of 1942 was spoilt by mumps, and though, when Founder's Day came, the sports had been run off, no visitors could be invited owing to quarantine. The ceremony was consequently a private one, with, however, the Deputy Keeper in the chair and Sir William McKechnie to distribute the prizes. The usual exhibitions of work were shown, and an upper school squad gave a demonstration of their weekly gym and daily ten minutes' physical training. Finally, after the breaking up, a threat of diphtheria crowned all by keeping the School at Marchmont for two rain-sodden and unwelcome extra days. This was the dismal end of what had been quite an enjoyable cricket season, though only one of the four matches resulted in a victory. Since September both health and weather have been more favourable. For the first time, at Marchmont, Rugger has been possible, a brief vaccination period apart, for two full terms of open weather, and, with three practice games a week, the play has naturally improved. We have gained two victories out of three matches so far played, these being against a Galashiels Academy XV. and a team from Berwickshire High School, a soccer school, who had already beaten a team of ours as soundly at their own game. We hope it will soon be possible again to have the popular fixture with St Mary's, Melrose.

For two terms heavy calls were made on time and energy by house-cleaning and washing-up. The position is now easier, and, let us confess, the house is cleaner. This year there was less potato lifting to do, and recreations have been many. War-time gardening on an ever-increasing scale, swimming in the Blackadder, mixed cricket, tennis, prisoners' base, a staff and boys' hockey match against the girls, exploration of Roman Camps, golf, archery and rounders have all had their season. A good many repairs, some of considerable importance, have been succesfully done by the woodwork classes under Mr Gunn, and the lower school boys have been rebinding tattered text books. Life off duty has been varied by play reading with Mr Arthurson, musical evenings with Miss MacIntyre, several talks from Captain McEwen, by Lieutenant Stryczek's flying visit, and two Honduran concerts, as well as by the now traditional Hallowe'en and Christmas parties, a Burns night, and Christmas and Easter choral

services at Polwarth, where we welcome Mr Grimwood back most warmly after his serious illness. Finally the School Scout Troop now appears likely to be reformed, assisted by Cadet Toper, of the Polish Forces, and under the guidance of Mr Aynsley Smith, Dr Morrison Cleator's successor among the masters.

G. W. Rowe.

THE GIRLS' PAGE.

The request for an article for the Girls' page of *The Levite* forces me to realise that another year has passed. Life has ambled on in these lovely surroundings, much as usual, although John Watson Girls of the past five years will be sorry to hear of the loss, to the Girl's side of the house in particular, of Mrs Scriver, who gave herself so ungrudgingly to the School. But we are fortunate in having with us, as Matron, Mrs Thom, who took up Mrs Scriver's great and good work where she left off. Old Girls visiting the School will find dormitories and sick rooms changed about, and even Matron's room changed. The treatment of a damaged knee or stocking no longer includes a view of the fountain and, on a clear day, Hume Castle, but of the lions and the long drive and the dovecot. What once was the dormitory next to Matron's room became, in December, the girl's sick room, but has still not had its first patient, which is a good record for an Easter Term.

It is strange to be thinking of the publication of *The Levite* after what seems weeks of summer weather. Our one day's snow, which provided two days' sledging, and our few days of skating have been swept from our minds by warm days and the feeling of spring in the air. Already the lawns in front of the house have been peppered with groups of boys and girls, sitting or lying on rugs enjoying the sunshine at times that would ordinarily, in the Easter Term, have been spent indoors. Potato lifting seems distant now. Even snowdrop picking is drifting to the back of our minds, and the girls, on their occasional walks in the past fortnight, have been keeping a close lookout for celandine leaves that promise to provide full grown plants before their Easter holidays—a more joyous task than converting balls of cotton into ear and eye bandages for soldiers, or sewing on tapes, or hemming hospital towels.

All outdoor pursuits have benefited to the full by our almost Mediterranean winter. This season the girls have played as much hockey as in the previous two, on a drier, faster pitch than we have come to expect, and as a result the work of the team has reached a very good standard, and has fully justified the journeys to Hawick and Ayton. The last matches of the season have still to be played at Duns, when we hope to have every girl who plays hockey and every hockey stick we possess on the field. Hockey sticks have been glued and bandaged and varnished, again and again, but they hold together and do sovereign service. The Girls versus Staff hockey match

this season was won by the girls, but was sufficiently popular with both teams, for the game to go on after it had been lost and won.

Guides and Brownies are flourishing. First Marchmont have now thirteen Second Class Guides, and badges accumulate on sleeves, and even above pockets, for five Guides have earned their National Service Badge. But the great event this term was the dedication of their Colours at Christchurch, Duns, by the Reverend R. A. Forde. Brownies too are working hard, and are anxious to "fly up" when the time comes for them to become Guides, and three have already won their Wings. But Guide and Brownie meetings are not all arduous work, for anyone with an eye for coming events would suspect Guide and Brownie plays in the near future.

At the moment, too, anyone with an ear for coming events would suspect music examinations at no distant date. Every day more scales resound through the house and become faster and faster.

One day soon, at the time that their dishes are usually being sampled and approved by admiring friends, both girls and boys, the senior Domestic Science class will be in the throes of cooking and serving a whole dinner.

Cricket equipment is already being overhauled, and the sports events are already on the notice boards, so hopes run high for a happy summer term.

M. Lawson, *Housemistress.*

JOHN WATSON CLUB.

NEW MEMBERS.

1942 Gomez, J., 10 Dean Street, Whitecrook, Glasgow.
1942 Gregor, T., 12 Inverleith Gardens, Edinburgh.
1942 Marshall, D. H., "Driesk," 53 Brechin Road, Forfar.
1942 Shannon, J. D., 92 Montgomery Street, Edinburgh.
1942 Wilkie, A., 67 Ravelston Dykes, Edinburgh.
1942 Winter, I. J., 27 Rutland Street, Edinburgh.
1942 Brown, D. I. N., 19 Colinton Mains Loan, Edinburgh.
1942 McKerron, R., 180 Monument Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
1942 McDonald,, R. E. M., 31 Howard Place, Edinburgh.
Baillie, Miss G. T., Barr's Temperance Hotel, Lanark.
Cook, Miss A., 66 Leamington Terrace, Edinburgh.
Fyall, Miss I. K., 5 Glasswork Street, Kirkcaldy.
Grigor, Miss M., 2 Warrender Park Crescent, Edinburgh.
Maclachan, Miss S. M. C., 14 Burnside Street, Rosyth.
Maclachlan, Miss L. A. C. 14 Burnside Street, Rosyth.
Moore, Miss C. D., 6 Lonsdale Terrace, Edinburgh.
McKellar, Miss S., 5 Bryce Avenue, Edinburgh.

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